

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are presented for further examination. Claims 1, 4, and 14 have been amended. Claims 15-24 are new.

In the Office Action mailed March 7, 2005, the Examiner found claims 1-14 to be allowable if claims 1-4 were rewritten or amended to overcome a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. In that rejection, the phrases “all other outputs” and “each output” in claims 1 and 4 were unclear as to what was referred to. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 to overcome the indefiniteness. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, claims 1-14 are now in condition for allowance. New claims 15-23 are directed to a decoder that includes a selection circuit for activating from a plurality of outputs a selected output corresponding to an input binary value; and a deselection circuit coupled to the plurality of outputs that deactivates the plurality of outputs except the selected output when the selected output is activated. Inasmuch as claim 15 includes limitations similar to allowable claim 1, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 15 and dependent claims 16-24 are allowable for the reasons why claim 1 is allowable.

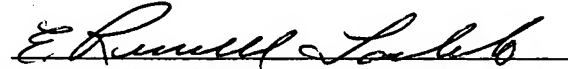
In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicant's undersigned representative by telephone at (206) 622-4900 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Application No. 10/615,601
Reply to Office Action dated March 7, 2005

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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